



AF/ 8FW

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 048289-5003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
John M. MARYNOWSKI et al.) Confirmation No.: 8771
Application No.: 09/618,222) Group Art Unit: 3624
Filed: July 18, 2000) Examiner: Daniel S. Felten
For: AN AUTOMATED TRADING SYSTEM)
IN AN ELECTRONIC TRADING)
EXCHANGE)

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window
Randolph Building
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

STATUS INQUIRY

Applicants hereby request notification of the status of the above-referenced patent application.

Applicants and their undersigned representative met with Examiners Kazimi and Felten on June 23, 2004, regarding application 09/417,774. During the meeting, Applicants advised the Examiners that a Notice of Appeal had been filed to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on April 28, 2004, in the present application and that Applicants were preparing an Appeal Brief for filing. The Examiners indicated that the present application was re-assigned from Examiner Akers and requested that Applicants not file the Appeal Brief until they had the chance to review the application file.

Examiner Kazimi telephoned the undersigned on June 28, 2004 and left a voice mail message stating that he had reviewed the application file and that the final rejection would be withdrawn and a new Office Action issued. Examiner Kazimi again requested that we not file an Appeal Brief because a new Office Action was going to be issued.

The undersigned telephoned Examiners Felten and Kazimi on October 28, 2004, because Applicant had not received a new Office Action. Examiner Felten issued an Interview Summary confirming that the final rejection would be withdrawn and a new office action would be issued.

Over 8 months have now passed since the first meeting and Applicants have yet to receive a new Office Action. The present application has been pending for almost 5 years. It is respectfully requested that Applicants be advised of the current status of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 24, 2005

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